Epiphany of Our Lord

January 7, 8:45 & 11:15 AM

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation. **Amen.**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of life,

you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace. We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.

Hear the good news: We are children of God and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In + Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God.

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)



Text: Christopher Wordsworth, 1807–1885, alt. Music: SALZBURG, Jakob Hintze, 1622–1702; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

WORD

FIRST READING

Isaiah 60:1-6 Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.



Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Music: FREUT EUCH, IHR LIEBEN, Leonhart Schröter, 1540–1602

5

SECOND READING

What had been hidden from previous generations is now made known through the gospel ministry of Paul and others. In Christ both Jews and Gentiles participate in the richness of God's promised salvation.

This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles—for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you, and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ. In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit: that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ, and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

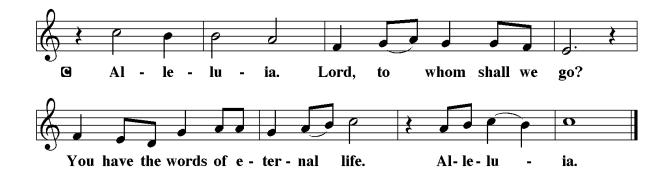
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (8:45)



AllAlleluia.ChoirWe have observed his star at its rising, and have come to worship him. (Matt. 2:2)AllAlleluia.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (11:15)



GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the second chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

Pastor Miller

HYMN OF THE DAY—ELW 308

0 0 Star, how fair and bright! You shine with 1 Morn - ing 2 Come, pre - cious mond, light and deep with dia di - vine, 3 Lord, when you look on us in love, at once there your Son you loved us, Al - might - y ther, 4 Fa in God's own truth and light, a - glow with grace cy! and mer hearts now shine; there light flame un - dy - ing! in our a falls from God a - bove а ray of pur - est plea - sure. when not be - gun this old earth's foun-da - tion! yet was Of Da-vid's son, our Lord and Sav - ior, Ja - cob's line, King bod - y let us as liv - ing branch - es In your one be Your word and Spir - it, flesh and blood re-fresh our souls with Your Son has ran - somed us in love to live in him here 0 6 you ly! have won our hearts to serve you on -Low - ly, Now, though of your life lives а tree, our sup-ply ing. dear - est trea - sure! heav'n-ly food. You are Let your our and a - bove: this is your great sal - va - tion. Al - le -0 ly! glo - rious, Great all ho and vic to - rious, rich ly. earth's deep sad - ness per - plex and dai may us mer cy warm and cheer us! Oh, draw near us! For lu Christ the life ia! liv - ing, - ing to us giv 0 Ο bless - ing! Rule might ing! in and o'er all pos - sess dis - tress with heav'n - ly you bless yet joy us. us, love through you you teach us God's own has reached us. for - ev er, keeps us yours and fails us nev er! 5 Oh, let the harps break forth in sound! 6 What joy to know, when life is past, Our joy be all with music crowned, the Lord we love is first and last, our voices gaily blending! the end and the beginning! For Christ goes with us all the way-He will one day, oh, glorious grace, today, tomorrow, ev'ry day! transport us to that happy place His love is never ending! beyond all tears and sinning! Sing out! Ring out! Amen! Amen! Jubilation! Come, Lord Jesus! Exultation! Crown of gladness! Tell the story! We are yearning Praise to Christ, who reigns in glory! for the day of your returning.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship Music: WIE SCHÖN LEUCHTET, Philipp Nicolai Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.
- We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

After each portion of the prayers: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

The prayers conclude:

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at <u>saintlukegive.us</u> You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church 9100 Colesville Road Silver Spring, MD 20910

CHORAL ANTHEM (8:45)

Arise and Shine!

Antiphon:

Arise and shine! Your light has come to all who dwell in darkness. Arise and shine, for in our midst the light of Christ is with us.

We who walked in dark of night, have seen a great light. A star has shown our Lord was born; the dawn on this new day. [Antiphon]

Unto us a child was born, a Son was giv'n. Baptized by John, now he reigns as mighty Prince of Peace, the mighty Prince of Peace. [Antiphon]

The light of Christ is with us.

Text: John R. Paradowski, based on Isaiah 9:2, 6 Music: John R. Paradowski

MUSIC DURING THE OFFERING (11:15)

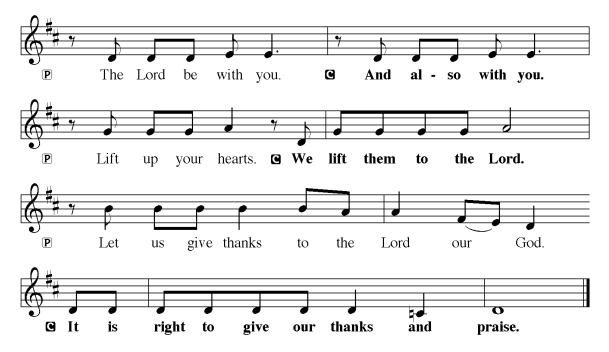
O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright!

Jan Bender (1909-1994)

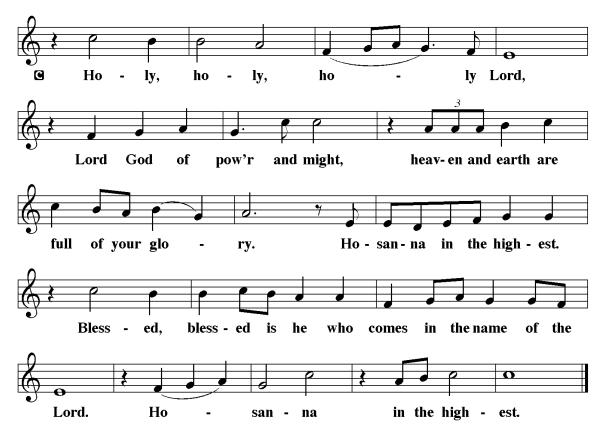
Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the song of the angels, and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. Amen.



It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and ever-living God. Sharing our life, he lived among us to reveal your glory and love, that our darkness should give way to his own brilliant light. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, O holy God: you are the Life and Light of all. By your powerful word you created all things. Through the prophets you called your people to be a light to the nations. Blessed are you for Jesus, your Son. He is your Light, shining in our darkness and revealing to us your mercy and might.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his preaching and healing, his dying and rising, and his promise to come again, we await that day when all the universe will rejoice in your holy and life-giving light. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

By your Spirit bless us and this meal, that, refreshed with this heavenly food, we may be light for the world, revealing the brilliance of your Son.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please pray in your own preferred language.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the table of peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre, venga a nosostros tu reino, hagase tu voluntad, asi en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia; perdona nuestras ofensas, como nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden; y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion, mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder, y la gloria, por los siglos de los siglos. Amen

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are two stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server) Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

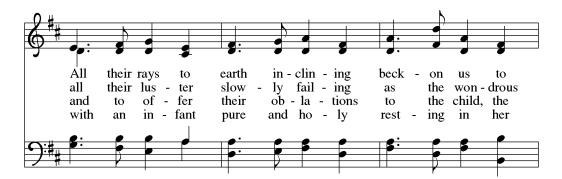
The communicant may say: Amen.

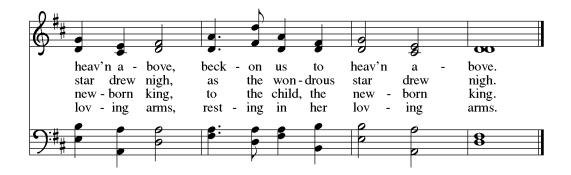
LAMB OF GOD











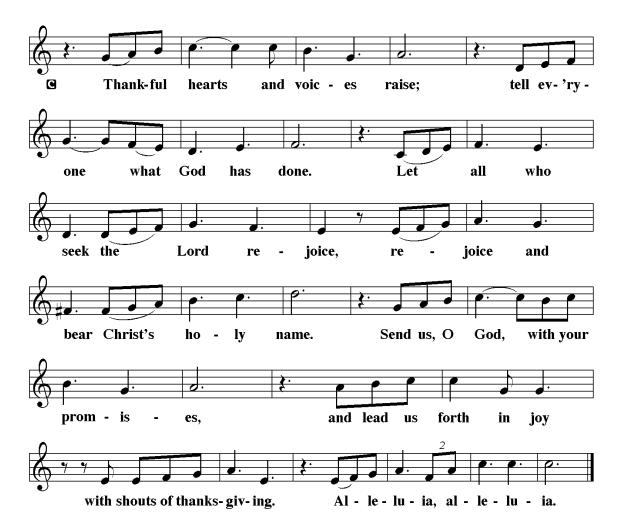
- 5 Guided by the star, they found him whose praise the ages sound. We too have a star to guide us, which forever will provide us with the light to find our Lord, with the light to find our Lord.
- 6 And this star, as bright as day, that will never lead astray with its message so appealing, is the Word of God, revealing Christ, the way, the truth, the life, Christ, the way, the truth, the life.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt. Music: DEJLIG ER DEN HIMMEL BLÅ, Danish, 19th cent. Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

POST- COMMUNION CANTICLE



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray. God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

God bless you and keep you, ★ Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING HYMN • ELW 303

Brightest and Best of the Stars of the Morning



Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Jens Christian Aaberg, 1877–1970, alt. Music: MORNING STAR, James P. Harding. 1850–1911, adapt.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Let your light shine! **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Brightest and Best of the Stars

Wayne L. Wold (b. 1954)



WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor* The Rev. Richard Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

ASSISTING MINISTER Deacon Kyle Warfield, Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries

COMMUNION SERVER (8:45) Melissa Groen, Director of Children's Ministries

FIGURINE CARRIERS 8:45 Jackson Bohl, Anna Gray, JB Hoople 11:15 Anderson Grussing, Ernest Shomari, Rose Shomari

READERS

8:45 Jacky Martin, *Council President*11:15 Valerie Grussing, *Council Member*

MUSICIANS Deacon Linda Pannebaker, *Organist* Schola Cantorum (8:45)

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This week at Saint Luke Lutheran Church

SUNDAY, Jan. 7 - CELEBRATING THE EPIPHANY

8:45 AM Worship
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00 AM SLSHY
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Up for Discussion (Hybrid)
11:15 AM Worship
12:30 PM Genesis Bells Rehearsal
3:30 PM Girl Scouts
5:00 PM AA

MONDAY, Jan. 8

8:00 AM CDS Classes1:30 PM CDS Staff Meeting4:00 PM After School Art Program - Langley Park6:00 PM Yoga

TUESDAY, Jan. 9

8:00 AM CDS Classes
10:00 AM Fire Drill
10:00 AM Mary/Martha Circle (Hybrid)
1:30 PM Program Staff Meeting
4:00 PM Piano Lessons
5:30 PM Stewardship Zoom
7:00 PM Reformation Bells
7:00 PM Girl Scouts
7:00 PM Council Zoom

WEDNESDAY, Jan. 10

7:00 AM Zoom Faith Connections 8:00 AM CDS Classes 10:00 AM Women in Community 10:00 AM CDS Chapel

5:30 PM Choristers RSCM program 7:30 PM Schola Cantorum Rehearsal 7:30 PM AA

THURSDAY, Jan. 11

6:30 AM Parking Lot Ministry - Langley Park8:00 AM CDS Classes7:30 PM Zoom Centering Prayer8:30 PM AA

FRIDAY, Jan. 12

8:00 AM CDS Classes

SATURDAY, Jan. 13

8:00 AM Food Distribution: Langley Park 8:30 AM Men's Group 9:30 AM AA 11:00 AM Al-Anon

SUNDAY, Jan. 14 - THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD/ANNIVERARY SUNDAY

8:45 AM Worship (Hybrid)
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00 AM Up For Discussion (Hybrid)
10:00 AM SLSHY
10:00 AM Sunday School
11:15 AM Worship (Hybrid)
12:30 PM Genesis Bells Rehearsal
5:00 PM Misa Español (hybrid)
5:00 PM AA
6:00 PM Reception

Upcoming Commemorations

Adrian of Canterbury, teacher, died 710

Tuesday, January 9

African by birth, Adrian (or Hadrian) worked with Theodore, archbishop of Canterbury, in developing the church in England. He was director of a school at which church leaders were trained.

TODAY—CELEBRATING THE EPIPHANY

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE EPIPHANY OF OUR LORD. This is the time when the Good News was made known to the world – those sages from the East took the word back to their countries. Epiphany means manifestation - literally being made known. The Creche scene returns to the steps and we thank the Sunday School children who are processing the three wise ones from the East.

CHRISTMAS THANK YOUS

THANK YOU TO ALL who gave Poinsettia Care Cards. Thanks to so many dedications we were able to send \$3445 to Augusta Victoria Hospital in East Jerusalem, for ongoing gifts for the children. How wonderful!

THANKS AGAIN SO MUCH TO everyone who made the Christmas services so beautiful. Much goes into preparation this time of year and we thank all the worship helpers, readers, musicians, choir members, property folks, bulletin preparers, technicians, and so many more who do so much behind the scenes. We are blessed. Thanks to all!

A BIG THANK YOU TOO FROM THE SAINT LUKE STAFF for all the kindnesses during the holidays, the cards, notes, and such delicious Christmas goodies. Thank you!

NEXT WEEK: ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY JANUARY 14

84 YEARS!

ANNIVERSARY SUNDAY + THE BAPTISM OF OUR LORD

GUEST PREACHER: CHAPLAIN DAVID SENSENIG

PRESENTLY SERVING AT GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE

(Chaplain Sensenig is a son of the congregation)

ANNIVERSARY OFFERING

WHEN SAINT LUKE CELEBRATES AN ANNIVERSARY it has been the tradition to receive a special offering that will help another ministry. The Congregation Council has designated the 2024 Anniversary Offering for **The Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Jerusalem, specifically for assistance for those in need due to the war.** We will receive this special offering next Sunday and Sundays thereafter. You may contribute by going to <u>saintlukegive.us</u> and click *Anniversary Offering.* Checks may also be made payable to Saint Luke Lutheran Church and note for *Anniversary Offering 2024*. Thank you.

ARISE! SHINE! FOR YOUR LIGHT HAS COME!